

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /105 W

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R 131353Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 665

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0943

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO PLO PFOR AORG ELAB IS

SUBJECT: ILO: ARAB RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EXPLUSION OF ISRAEL

REF: A) STATE 29338; B) GENEVA 0803

1. SUMMARY. BLANCHARD FEELS IT IS TOO EARLY TO JUDGE THE SERIOUSNESS OF ARAB INTENTIONS BUT EVEN IF A RESOLUTION WERE INTRODUCED AT THE CONFERENCE HE IS BY NO MEANS SURE THAT IT WOULD PASS. HE OUTLINED THE STEPS HE WPLL TAKE TO ASSESS SUPPORT FOR AN EXPULSION RESOLUTION AND SAID THAT IF IT WERE INTRODCUED AT THE JUNE CONFERENCE
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HE WOULD TAKE THE INTIATIVE TO POINT OUT UNCONSTITUTIONAL

ASPECTS. END SUMMARY.

2. I LAID OUT TALKING POINTS IN FIRST THREE PARAS REF A. BLANCHARD SAID HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM IRAN AND HAD ONLY BEGUN TO FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM. FROM WHAT HE HAD HEARD SO FAR FROM HIS STAFF IN GENEVA AND FROM REPORTS FROM CAIRO IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHAT BACKING THE ICATU RESOLUTION HAD AND WHETHER INDEED IT WOULD BE INTRODUCED AT JUNE CONFERENCE. HE SAID MOST IMPORTANT THING WAS TO BE CALM AND AVOID EMOTIONAL REACTIONS. WOLF AND VALTICOS (HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS DEPARTMENT) THEN WENT THROUGH THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF EXPULSION ALONG LINES OF REFS A AND B. BLANCHARD SAID HE DOUBTED THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD SUPPORT A RESOLUTION FOR EXPULSION WHICH WOULD BE CLEARLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL; SUPPORT FOR A "WILD" RESOLUTION WAS MORE LIKELY TO COME FROM THE WORKER AND EMPLOYER GROUPS.

3. BLANCHARD AGREED THAT THE MATTER SHOULD BE HANDLED DISCRETELY AND SAID HE WOULD DO SEVERAL THINGS TO BETTER GUAGE THE SUPPORT FOR AN EXPULSION RESOLUTION. HE WILL TALK TO MORRIS AND BERGSTROM BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY EEMTS TO ENLIST THEIR SUPPORT IN THE WORKER AND EMPLOYER GROUPS AGAINST EXPULSION. HE WILL BRING EL MARCHI, ILO OFFICE DIRECTOR IN CAIRO, IN FOR A BRIEFING AND THEN SEND HIM TO TRIPOLI TO OBSERVE THE ARAB LABOR MINISTERS CONFERENCE DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 9. HE ALSO PLANS TO HAVE AN ILO REPRESENTATIVE COVER THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN LABOR MINISTERS IN LIBREVILLE DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 16. VALTICOS WILL BE IN CAIRO DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL AND WILL BRING BACK A FRESH ASSESSMENT OF ICATU INTENTIONS AT THAT TIME.

4. IF THE RESOLUTION IS INTRODUCED AT THE CONFERENCE, BLANCHARD SAID HE WOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO POINT OUT ITS UNCONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS. HE REPEATED THAT HE EXPECTS MOST GOVERNMENTS WOULD OPPOSE EXPULSION. HE SAID THE EUROPEANS WHO ARE DIVIDED ON MANY ISSUES WOULD CLOSE RANKS ON THIS ONE; EVEN THE FRENCH, WHO ARE THOUGHT BY SOME "TO BE PLAYING GAMES WITH THE ARABS", WOULD OPPOSE EXPULSION. AND THE ARAB STATES WERE NOT LIKELY TO BE MONOLITHIC; THE PLO IN ITS SEARCH FOR STATUS AS SOMETHING MORE THAN A LIBERATION MOVEMENT

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MIGHT NOT NECESSARILY FAVOR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM THE ILO. HE ADDED THAT HE NEEDED AN ARAB ON HIS STAFF BECUASE AFTER THE DEATH OF ABAS AMER, HE HAD LOST CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES.

5. BLANCHARD IS ALWAYS DRY AND REALISTIC AND NEVER CONCERNS HIMSELF WITH HYPOTHETICAL SPECULATIONS. THUS, HE WAS NOT IMPRESSED BY POSSIBLE ADVERSE US PUBLIC REACTION WHICH HE CONSIDERS TO

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BEYOND HIS CONTROL. HE GAVE ME TO BELIEVE THAT HE HIS CORRESPONDING WITH GEORGE MENAY AND THAT HE IS WELL AWARE OF AFL-CIO CONCERNS AND ITS POSITION. HE ALSO SHARES USG CONCERN WITH THE GRAVE IMPLICATIONS OF EXPULSION FOR THE US RELATIONSHIP WITH ILO AND FOR THE FUTURE OF ILO ITSELF. HIS GREATEST FEAR IS THAT A PREMATURE OR HEAVY REACTION MIGHT STRENGTHEN ARAB DETERMINATION OR EVEN ADD IMPETUS FOR EXPULSION, E.G. BY FORCING THE MORE MODERATE ARAB COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT EXPULSION IN THE NAME OF ARAB UNITY.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, MEMBERSHIP, RESOLUTIONS, MEETINGS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA00943
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750054-0146
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750247/aaaabpwz.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 29338; B) GENEVA 0803
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO: ARAB RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EXPLUSION OF ISRAEL
TAGS: PFOR, AORG, ELAB, IS, XF, ILO, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006